

Psychides outside the Palearctic Region. I have seen but one *Solenobia* from North America. Another species from the same Continent is represented in the British Museum Collection. It would appear that only the larger, and more conspicuous, species attract attention. Our non-segmental-rod sections should be fairly represented, at least in the cooler parts of the Neo-arctic, if not also in the Southern Hemisphere.

I have not made much of the sleeves into which the rods in most species pass. In some specimens, even of those with long rods, the sleeves are distinctly traceable, to the extremity of the rods. In others the sleeves are scarcely discernable, and are absent in one specimen of a species, and not in another. Again in some species (*Apterona*, and *Scioptera*), these sleeves are certainly absent. I have felt therefore that as a long rod would have a long sleeve, and a short rod a short one, there is not much to be learnt from them. In the short-rod species the sleeves are much more evident than in the long, and are certainly more than mere folds in the outer skin of the abdomen, as one might possibly at first sight conclude.

I am hoping that this bare outline may serve as a basis for further study. My aim has been to contrive such a table as may help to place any unknown specimen in its correct position. I have, as I have stated before, been much hampered by uncertainty as to the correctness of some of the names supplied to me with the specimens, and also by the lack of sufficient specimens to base conclusions upon. I have therefore often been ruled by majorities. Of 50 of the species in Tutt's list, I have no specimen, of 20 I have but one, of 12 only two, of 10 only three. I should have been better satisfied had I been able to secure more duplicates to strengthen my observations. I have also certain specimens about whose identity I am still puzzled, belonging principally to forms of which I possess only one example.

(To be continued.)

On some Italian races of *Erebia aethiops*, Esp., and of *E. pirene*, Hub. (= *stygne*, O.), and on *E. flavofasciata*, Ruhl-Heyne.

By ROGER VERITY, M.D.

The name of *medea* of the *Wiener Verzeichniss* may have, by a few months, the right of priority claimed for it by Kirby, but as this is not sure, and Esper's figure and description of *aethiops* are far more satisfactory, I think his name, which is the one in use, can be preserved; Hübner's figure of *medea* is not previous to Esper's, as thought by Kirby. It may seem surprising that a species so widespread in Europe and in Asia should stop short on the boundary of Peninsular Italy, and should not reach the Pyrenees either. I think the explanation rests in the fact that it requires swampy spots under the shade of woods, and that these conditions are too scarce for it in the south of Europe, where the mountains have been laid bare of forests. The races of northern Italy are, in most cases, characterised by a more or less marked reduction in the extent of the red bands. In the giant *taurinorum*, Vrtý., from Turin and the hills of Piedmont (*Bull. Soc. Ent. France*, 1911, p. 312, pl. I., f. 2) the band of forewing has an hour-glass shape. In the Crattian Alps that band has the same extent and shape, but the size of the insect is far less, the eye-spots are much larger and more numerous,

with large white pupils, so that it is quite distinct from *sapandia*, Frühst., and *rubria*, Frühst.; I propose naming it *CRATTIAE*, mihi, from specimens from Torre Pellice in my collection.

From the Ligurian Apennines (Valle Brevenna in the Alta Valle di Scrivia), Dr. Rocci, of Genoa, describes (*Mem. Soc. Ent. Ital.*, II., March, 1923) a giant race he has collected in the chestnut woods at 600m. to 700m. He claims it to be larger on an average than *taurinatorum* (52mm. in expanse); he describes it as belonging to the same group of races as the latter, with strongly convex outer margins, but having a very extensive and bright fulvous band on forewing and none on hindwing; eye-spots smaller than in *taurinatorum*; light band on underside of hindwings very conspicuous.

On June 11th, 1920, Querci discovered the most southern locality of this species as yet known, just within the boundary of Central Italy, at the Acqua Bianca, 1,300m., on Mt. Pisanino in the Apuane Alps (N.-W. of Tuscany). He was only able to collect two males, but they are so like each other, and so different from the other races I have just mentioned, that I do not hesitate to ascribe them to a new race, calling it *APUANA*, mihi. It stands to *crattiae* as race *etrusca*, Vrty., of these same Apuane mountains stands to nymotypical *E. neoridas* of the Maritime Alps, by the very small size of the eye-spots, with most minute white pupils, and by the very limited extent of the red bands; in one of my specimens there is a broad gap between the apical part and that round the hinder ocellus, but the red is not reduced to an extremely narrow circle round each ocellus, as in race *parvisi*, Vrty., from Udine; it probably comes nearer the less extreme *derufata*, Frühst., from Primiero in S. Tyrol; in size, underside and other features *apmana* is quite like *crattiae*.

Turning our attention to another species, a race of which from Central Italy deserves to be recorded, I must first of all remark that I quite agree with Frühstorfer, *Iris*, February, 1918, p. 98, that the species usually known as *stygne*, O., should be designated by the older name introduced by Hübner and by Esper, as *pyrene* and as *pyrene*, respectively. Only, I think that of Hübner is not a *nomen nudum*, as Frühstorfer considers it. The names on Hübner's plates are accepted as valid in innumerable other cases, and there is no reason to discuss its validity in this special one. Staudinger, in his *Catalogue* of 1901, refers the race of the Apennines to *pyrenaica*, Rühl, and Turati finds that a specimen in the University of Naples collection quite agrees with his from the Pyrenees. They evidently had before them examples from the Abruzzi, because a single male I possess from Castel del Monte confirms their statement. On the contrary, out of the large numbers collected by Querci in the Sibillini Mts., not one individual is similar to the latter. They are all much darker. In my *List of the Lepidoptera of the Province of Macerata* I called them *valesiaca*, Elws., on this account, but I now see that this was not correct and that it is a perfectly distinct race, to be described as follows:—Small size; wings more elongated and outer margins rather straighter than in most other races; colour of a very deep black in the male and always dark also in the female, never having the faded tone of some Alpine individuals on both surfaces (Calberla notes that the underside of hindwings also of the Abruzzi females, is very dark); ocelli constantly very small, and with a very minute white pupil; there are never more than three in

the male on the forewing, and sometimes only the two apical ones; the red band in the male is always very reduced in extent, but not as much as in *valesiaca*; usually not entirely broken between the apical ocelli and the hinder one, although it is often reduced to a faint and narrow streak; broader and of more even breadth on underside; on hindwings above three red circles round the eye-spots always present, but never confluent, and in some cases very thin; light band of underside scarcely ever perceptible in the male. In the female the bands and eye-spots do not differ as strikingly from those of the nymotypical race; they are considerably less extensive than in race *eturiae*, Vrtý., *Ent. Rec.*, 1919, p. 124 (= *constantinii*, Turati), from the Apennines in Northern Tuscany, but much less so than in the first female, wrongly figured by Seitz on pl. 85 of *Gross-schmett.*, under the name of *stygne*, whereas it is a very extreme *valesiaca*. For the race of the Sibillini Mts. I suggest the name of **TETRICA**, mihi.

As I am dealing with this genus, I must take the occasion to say a few words in answer to Mr. B. C. S. Warren's question concerning *E. flavofasciata*, Heyne-Rühl., in his interesting paper in *Ent. Rec.* of May last, p. 78. The question he puts is whether the race he has collected near the Tschierwa glacier, in the Engadine, is the nymotypical one of the Campolungo Pass, in Tessin, or *thiemei*, Bartel, of Pontresina. Possessing a nice series of the former and "co-types" of the latter, sent to me by Bartel himself, I have ascertained at a glance that Warren's specimens come distinctly nearer *thiemei*. To be more accurate, however, I should notice that only two of the twelve he figures on pl. I. are really exactly similar to Bartel's, *i.e.*, the male and the female, with the broadest and most continuous underside band, at the bottom of column I. The ten others have the band much more reduced and broken than in *thiemei*, and constitute a much more extreme and distinct race than the latter, standing opposite the nymotypical *flavofasciata*, and well worth distinguishing by the name of **WARRENI**, mihi.

The Growing Importance of Entomology.

By H. S. FREMLIN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., F.E.S.

To most collectors Entomology means collecting butterflies and moths, getting as many species of these as possible, having good series and as many varieties as one is able to obtain. To such an one the "Bath White" and the "Camberwell Beauty" are always looked-for prizes, and the mind turns now and then with longing to a "Clifton Nonpareil," or a "Crimson Speckled Footman;" to all the "Large Copper" is a gem in the collection, even though it must be obtained at Stevens'. There are other Collectors who hunt for beetles, or dragonflies, or bees, and here and there one who works for grasshoppers. or earwigs; but these are few.

To all such collectors a new species, a rare specimen, an extraordinary variety, or some special form such as a beetle that looks like a wasp, or a butterfly that birds like the taste of, disguising itself as another sort that birds do not fancy; all of these are of great interest, and about them societies are formed, meetings are held, evenings are spent, and month by month, year by year, they are exhibited and